

Consideration of the dedication of the Bender Addition Nature Preserve in Noble County

The proposed Nature Preserve is a 55.375 acre property that is in the central portion of Noble County, approximately 2.0 miles southwest of the town of Albion. This nature preserve protects an example of mesic/dry mesic upland and floodplain forest along the Elkhart River watershed and within the Northern Lakes Natural Region.

This Nature Preserve consists of topography containing a stretch of the South Branch of the Elkhart River, a meandering broad floodplain - known as 'the spreads' and associated wetlands. The uplands are small morainal ridges interspersed with poorly drained basins.

Natural communities this nature preserves protects, include: mature mixed-mesic and dry-mesic oak-hickory forests on the uplands, a partially forested shrub swamp, a wetland seep, and old-growth bottomland wet-mesic forests in the floodplains. These wetlands provide habitat for the Eastern Massasauga snake, a State Endangered species and a candidate for Federal listing.

This Nature Preserve is an important addition to the original Bender (Lloyd W.) Nature Preserve and protects wetland habitat on both sides of the Elkhart River.

This tract is owned and managed by ACRES Land Trust.

The Division of Nature Preserves recommends dedication of this site as a State Nature Preserve.

Attached is Nature Preserves exhibit A.

Bender (Lloyd W.) Addition Nature Preserve

County: Noble
Size: 51.15 acres

Exhibit A

USGS Quad Map: Albion
Ownership: ACRES Land Trust



map created by R Wilson IDNR Nature Preserves 08.12.2014

0 0.125 0.25 Miles

